48. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to mention:—

(a) whether it has not been brought to the attention of the Government by a member of the Excise Committee that the Superintendent of Excise Revenue has not sent a clearly typed copy of the memorandum submitted by him for the consideration and discussion of the Excise Committee ;

(b) whether he has not in his letter, dated 7th May 1927, requested the Diwan of Cochin to arrange for sending him a readable copy of it; and, if so,

(c) what action the Government has taken in this matter;

(d) whether the member had not requested the Chairman of the Committee and the Superintendent of Excise to furnish him a distinctly typed copy of it; and, if so,

(e) whether the replies of the Chairman and the Superintendent be printed and placed on the table, and whether he was supplied with a readable copy of it; and, if not, why it was not supplied ?

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The letter was replied to.

(d) Yes.

(e) A copy of the reply sent by the Superintendent is appended. (*Vide Appendix X.*) No fresh copy was sent, as the one already sent was not returned.

49. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Superintendent of Excise Revenue has not been directed by the Excise Committee to circulate among the members of the Committee some books and reports ;

(b) whether these were circulated to all the members of the Committee ;

(c) whether the book on '*Temperance in Madras, 1922*,' (by Mr. Strathie) has, by this time, been circulated to all the members ; and, if not,

(d) who is the member to whom this book has not been sent; and, why was it not sent to him, and whether it will soon be sent to him ;

(e) whether any of the members of the Committee requested the Superintendent of Excise Revenue to send him for perusal and return *the Administration Report* (containing the report of the Excise Department) of the last few years; and, if so, whether they were sent to him ?

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

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(d) The interpellating member himself. The book was not sent to him, because, when the other books and reports were sent, it was with the President who wanted it for reference in connection with the drafting of the report. After its receipt from the President, it was not sent, because, though the other books were sent to the member so long ago as 15th February 1927, they have not yet been returned, in spite of the requisitions made by the Superintendent on 14th May 1927 for their return. The Superintendent is keeping it with him, as he has no other books for reference. It will be sent to the member, as soon as the other books are received back.

(e) The answer to the first part is in the affirmative, and the second in the negative.

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